Defrauidng ot' workers by a Delhi firm

952. SHRIMATI KRISHNA KAUL-
DR. LOKESH CHANDRA:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the reported cheating of thousands of workers by a firm,in Nehru Place, Delhi which deprived them of thousands of rupees on the promise of sending them to Yemen;

(b) if so, what are the details there-^ of; and

(c) what action has been taken against the guilt j' firm?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA), (a) No such compIaint has been received.

(b). and (c) Does not arise.

Child labour

953. SHRIMATI KRISHNA KAUL: Will the Minister of LABOURt be pleased to state.

(a) whether he stated on the 24th January, 1986 in New Delhi that banning of child labour in the country will cause hardship to their families and steps will be taken for making the conditions more humane for them; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and what steps are proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) and (b) In the meeting of the Central Advisory Board on Child labour held on lin 24th January. 1*36, the Minister of Labour had stated that in the context of the present socio-economic conditions of the country, child labour cannot be eliminated overnight, as it would cause hardship to the families of the working children and would be impossible at this juncture. He stated that Govermnent therefore proposed to work towardg gradual elimination of child labour and meanwhile make their conditions of work more humane.

Government have taken up the following steps to humanise and gradually eliminate child labour.

1. The Ministry is extending financial assistance to voluntary organisations to undertake action programmce concerning welfare of working children, namely> health, nutrition, formal and non-formal education, vocational training, or to conduct useful research in the field of child labour. A number of voluntary organisations have, with the support of the Ministry of Labour undertaken action oriented programmes and research projects.

2. Government also proposes to launch two pilot projects for the benefit of child labour in two specific areas where there is concentration of child llabour, namely, Mirzapur-Bhadohi belt of carpet industry in UP and the match industry in Sivakasi, Tamil Nadu.

3. The Employment of children Aet, 1938 has been amended (in 1985) to make the penalties for violation of its provisions more stringent.

4. A comprehensive Child Labour Bill to regulate & gradually eliminate child labour and to provide benefits like health care, education etc. is under the active consideration of the Government.